



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

GARY M. LANIGAN
Commissioner

May 8, 2014

David J. Rosen
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer
Office of Legislative Services
State House Annex, P.O. Box 068
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0068

Dear Mr. Rosen:

Please find the Department of Corrections response to the additional questions raised by Senator Beck of the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Questions:

Please provide the committee with the recidivism rate of New Jersey's sex offenders. How does this rate compare to the recidivism rates of sex offenders in other states? What is the national recidivism rate average?

Response:

There is no national recidivism percentage for sexual offending. The Department of Justice utilizes the classifications of violent, property, drug and weapon offenses. Sex offenders are grouped with violent offenders. According to our annual outcome report, and consistent with both state and federal statistics, violent offenders represent the lower risk offenders and have the lowest recidivism rates.

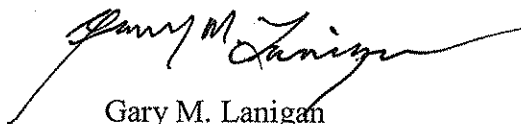
Although NJDOC does not calculate the specific statistics requested in the above question, the NJDOC has participated in two National Institute of Justice grants and both collected data on sexual offenders. Using data from the most recent SORNA grant published in 2012 (Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Title I of the Adam Walsh Act), the sex offending recidivism rate for sexual offenders in New Jersey released between 1995 and 1999 was 3.5% for a 5 year follow-up and 8.3% after a 10 year follow-up. This grant comprised data from Minnesota, Florida, South

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Carolina and New Jersey. New Jersey had the lowest percentage of sexual re-offending in the study. The full sample of sex offenders across the 4 states had a 5.1% recidivism rate for 5 years and a 10.3% after 10 years of follow-up.

Should you have need for additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Lanigan
Commissioner

c: Judi Lang, Chief of Staff
Gary T. Alpert, Assistant Commissioner
Mark Farsi, Deputy Commissioner
Beth Schermerhorn, Assistant State Treasurer